

HAPPENINGS AT

Sacred
Heart
University

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Margaret Kelly, executive vice president and vice president for academic planning at St. John's University, delivered the Commencement address before 381 graduates of the Class of 1975 on May 24 and received an honorary doctorate. Enjoying a lighter moment prior to the ceremonies are (left to right) former Connecticut Governor Raymond E. Baldwin and Bernard D. Helfrich, Bridgeport Diocesan superintendent of schools and director of the Ministry of Christian Formation, who also received honorary doctorates; Miss Kelly; the Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, Sacred Heart University Board Chairman; and President Kidera.

Successful Benefit and Gift Program Reported; Independent Colleges Hold Line on State Aid; Enrollment Pattern Thus Far Seems Hopeful

A successful "Jesus Christ Superstar" Benefit performance was among highlights of University fund raising activity this year. According to Joseph R. Burkart, assistant to the president for development, there is every indication that a goal of approximately \$80,000 in unrestricted gifts will be realized this year.

The state program of scholarship assistance to Connecticut students at independent colleges, within the state, known as P.A. 73-551, remained at roughly its same level of funding as experienced in 1974-75 at a time when percentages of 1974-75 funding were reduced in various other areas of the higher education budget and when state financial problems in Connecticut have become clearly evident.

Despite increased financial pressures, full-time enrollment acceptances for fall were running somewhat ahead of last year at the end of May. In addition, the 1975 early intensive summer session period at SHU was nearly 100 students above a comparable 1974 period, according to preliminary estimates.

Final figures for total fall enrollment, both part-time and full-time, will not be available until September. However, indications again point toward the

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THREE HONORED AT SHU COMMENCEMENT

Margaret Kelly, executive vice president and vice president for academic planning at St. John's University in Jamaica, N. Y.; Justice Raymond E. Baldwin, former Connecticut Governor, U. S. Senator, chief justice, State Supreme Court of Errors, and present state referee; and Bernard D. Helfrich, superintendent of schools and director of the Ministry of Christian Formation, Diocese of Bridgeport, were awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees at May 24 Commencement.

Miss Kelly delivered the Commencement address and 381 students received degrees. Valedictorian was Michael P. Clifford.

Miss Kelly, who joined St. John's in 1959, formerly was with the New York State Education Department. Her present duties include evaluation of academic and related areas, university studies and research, long range academic planning and student financial aid supervision.

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INVITATION TO USSR, CONTINENT EXTENDED TO CABARET GROUP

As HAPPENINGS was going to press, it was learned that the SHU Cabaret Players, directed by Claude McNeal, have been invited by U. S. Senator Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.) to take their popular show, DECADES, on a possible four-month tour of the Soviet Union and the European Continent on behalf of the U. S. State Department as part of the American Bicentennial Celebration in Europe. Confirmation was being awaited at the time.

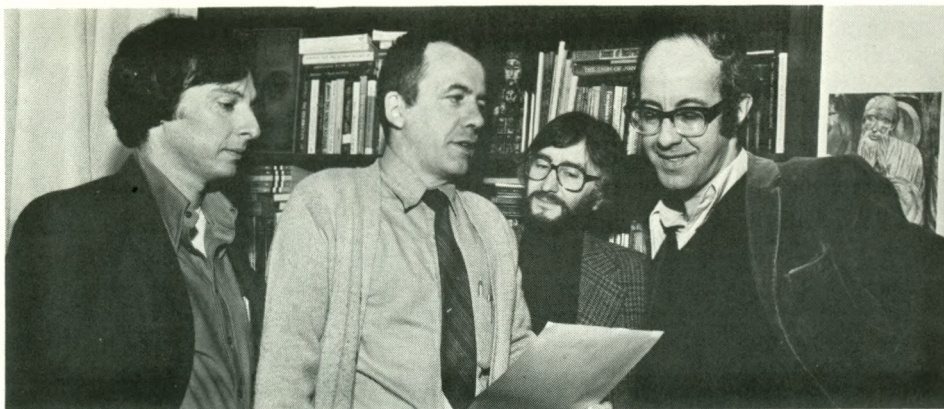
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR is being presented June 20, 21, 22; June 27, 28, 29; and July 4, 5, 6 and perhaps will be extended further. The drama department may be contacted for details and further drama information is available on Page 4.



Enjoying the May 3 SHU Presidential Scholarship Benefit performance of "Jesus Christ Superstar" in the University gymnasium were: (left to right) Mrs. Frank Loh, Southport; Mrs. Ralph LoStocco, Trumbull; Mr. and Mrs. Merton C. Grilley, Fairfield; Mrs. and Mr. Philip Thompson, Fairfield; and SHU trustee, the Rev. Msgr. John F. McGough, of Trumbull. Standing, left to right, are: Mr. Loh; Alexander Hawley, University trustee; and Ralph LoStocco, member of the SHU regional council.



One of the recent programs which has attracted attention and recognition for SHU is the legal assistants program, being explained at a reception of University legal assistants and Bridgeport area lawyers. Seated (right to left) are: Eugene Eady, Bridgeport, a student in the program, and his guest, Miss Mary Fernandez. Standing behind them (left to right) are Kenneth Della Rocco, Fairfield, and Patricia Miller, Bridgeport, both legal assistant students; Attorney Joan Farcus, director of the program; and State Senator Salvatore DePiano, chairman of the Greater Bridgeport Bar Association and also chairman of the program's advisory committee.



World Peace in an ethical and spiritual setting on campus was the theme featured as the University Chaplain's Office hosted the Catholic Peace Fellowship (CPF) New England Regional Meeting in April. Participants included: (left to right) Thomas C. Cornell, of Newburgh, N. Y., CPF executive secretary and national program director, Fellowship of Reconciliation; Dr. David O'Brien, history professor, Holy Cross College and keynote speaker; the Rev. John B. Giuliani, SHU chaplain; and Rev. Henri Nouwen, associate professor of pastoral theology, Yale Divinity School, who led two workshops.

Commencement (cont. from page 1)

Justice Baldwin was former General Assembly House majority leader. He was elected three times as governor in Connecticut, serving from 1938-1944. In 1946, he was elected to the U. S. Senate and in 1949 was named to the Connecticut Supreme Court of Errors. In 1959, he was named chief justice and retired in 1963, becoming a state referee. In 1965, he was chairman of the state's constitutional convention.

Mr. Helfrich has been Diocesan superintendent of schools since 1971. He was previously assistant superintendent and for 12 years prior to joining the Diocesan system in 1967 was a former educator in the Trumbull school system. He has held several leadership positions in St. Catherine of Siena Church and in Trumbull town affairs and also has a variety of activities in the Greater Bridgeport area.

President Kidera said Miss Kelly's selection symbolized recognition of women's accomplishment in the 1975 International Year of the Woman. He indicated that Justice Baldwin was cited for a career which exemplified integrity in public affairs and Mr. Helfrich's selection recognized a professional leadership career dedicated to those Catholic value-oriented principles upon which the University itself has been established.

PRINTMAKERS EXHIBIT IS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL

Large numbers of visitors attended the Bicentennial Printmakers Exhibit between April 14 and May 11 and viewed more than one hundred contemporary and historical works of recognized printmakers who have lived and worked in Connecticut.

The earliest prints were done by Amos Doolittle during the Revolutionary War period. Contemporary artists represented included: Robert Motherwell, Alexander Calder, Philip Kappel, Eric Sloane, Sheila Cohen and Gabor Peterdi. A special media presentation showed Clare Leighton at work in her studio in Woodbury.

The exhibit was sponsored by the SHU art exhibition committee and presented with the support of the Connecticut Commission on the

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Robert A. Kidera

President, Sacred Heart University

Because Sacred Heart University is so closely linked to its community, the impact of the general inflation and economic depression are certain to affect the operations of our institution.

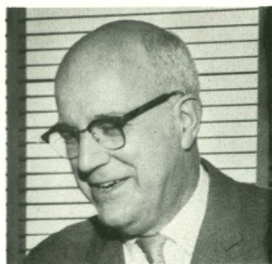
As a result, the academic year 1974-75 was a difficult period, but I am pleased to report it was also a most successful one. Total enrollment — which includes both full-time and part-time students — reached 2,458 in 1974-75 — the highest number in the history of the University. What was especially encouraging also, was the fact that the number of first-time, full-time enrollees increased for the third consecutive year. This means that the revisions in the curriculum and the new programs created recently were having the desired effects of reversing the downward enrollment trends of earlier years.

At the same time, it is expected that the financial report for 1974-75 will show a modest surplus which will be credited against prior deficits and capital indebtedness. This favorable financial balance reflects the increased enrollment, the tuition rate increase which went into effect the second semester, and gifts and grants for 1974-75 which exceeded \$400,000, another all-time high.

At Commencement Exercises held on May 24th, degrees were awarded to 381 graduates — who represent the real purpose of the University. The growing numbers of Sacred Heart alumni — most of whom reside in the Greater Bridgeport area — are becoming a major factor locally. It is through the lives and careers of its alumni, that Sacred Heart University fulfills its own destiny.

Now, we naturally turn to the coming school year. Several changes have been made in administrators and faculty, and the task of further strengthening the reputation of Sacred Heart University — its teaching effectiveness, its fiscal stability, and its leadership impact on the community — will continue. In this task, the increasing support from trustees, alumni, corporations, parents and friends — becomes even more important than in the past.

We know you share our pride and satisfaction in the achievements and success of the past year. We know also that we can count on your continued understanding and support.



BASEBALL TEAM PLANS FALL SCHEDULE

The very active varsity baseball team, undaunted by a March spring exhibition jaunt to California and a rugged 26 game regular season, will be at it again for fall baseball starting September 6 and continuing until October 12. Teams played this spring will be met again in the fall, with the addition of Fordham, Seton Hall and University of Massachusetts (Amherst).

Although the team enjoyed only a 9-17 regular season mark after dropping most of their exhibition games on the coast, it was significant that a large number of first-year players and others with a great amount of remaining eligibility time gained valuable experience and performed exceptionally well.

Joe Rietano, a Ludlowe high school graduate from Fairfield and a University freshman, had a gaudy .393 batting average while Mike Homkovics, a Shelton high school grad and another freshman, batted .345. Senior Gene DelGuidice captained the team. With enthusiastic coach Pete DiOrio setting the style, baseball at the University seems destined to become a growing campus sport in future.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE FORMED

To plan for the continuing celebration of the U. S. Bicentennial, the University has formed a special committee under the chairmanship of Richard A. Matzek, President Kidera announced.

The move represented a reorganization of certain prior existing University committees to a general Bicentennial committee in order to derive maximum input of suggestions, ideas coordinated in terms of an All-University Bicentennial theme.

The new committee started meeting in May to develop planning operations for the coming fall. A program subcommittee under the chairmanship of Prof. Leland Roberts is currently considering requests for program suggestions and applications for possible funding. The program subcommittee will also be considering All-University Bicentennial event possibilities for the fall, 1975 term to help assist in preparing the complete calendar of 1975-76 Bicentennial events.



Lucille Domizio, a sophomore from Stamford, is representative of the many talented performers involved in the University Golden Goose Ensemble, a Children's Theatre Troupe which will entertain area youngsters again this summer. Directed by Arthur Howard, the Ensemble expects to start its summer program in late June with "Stories from Many Lands" and the University Drama Office may be contacted for further information.

Campus Reports

Advanced in rank effective July 1 are: to professors: Dr. Ronald W. Brodeur, chairman, psychology department; Brother Philip O.F.M., philosophy department and coordinator of the honors program; to associate professor: Dr. Walter E. Brooks, chairman, department of religious studies; Leland R. Roberts, director of music, and department of fine arts; Dr. Paul Siff, director of the American Studies program and member, department of history.

Dr. Eric Christensen, a Sacred Heart University alumnus and a member of the mathematics department, was advanced to the rank of assistant professor on May 21 upon successful completion of the doctoral degree. Dr. Christensen earned his doctorate at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York and was commended by President Kidera and the Board both as an alumnus and faculty member for his accomplishment.

Recent program participants and speakers at the University included: Dr. Morton White, nationally recognized philosopher and historian; Dr. Claire Hahn, a member of the graduate faculty at Fordham and former SHU faculty member; Professor Isiah Robinson, of the University of Bridgeport, who discussed "Racism in Higher Education"; Louis Phillips, poet and playwright; Al Ries, advertising executive; Professor George S. Seligman, chairman of the Yale mathematics department; Mrs. Evelyn Conley, an attorney, and State Representative Thom Serrani, a 1970 alumnus.

Thirty-four seniors were named to "Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges."

Clarke D. Young, University trustee and vice president of Rauscher Pierce Securities Corporation, discussed time and its uses at a student luncheon meeting.

Anthony Tomanio, associate executive director of financial development and Campaign for the United Way of Eastern Fairfield County, was recently elected chairman of the University social work advisory committee.

Benefit and Gift Program (continued from page 1)

fact that, despite the economic crunch, an increased desire for student attendance at Sacred Heart University seems most evident.

The successful series of "Jesus Christ Superstar" performances in the gymnasium during the past spring, in addition to the May 3 fund-raising Benefit, a special Connecticut Printmakers Exhibit in connection with the Bicentennial and the creation of a new expanded special committee to play for a number of Bicentennial events during the next two years, have also been significant recent developments in University life.

A May 2 "Awareness Day" to dramatize problems confronting the handicapped student featured SHU administrators spending the morning in wheel chairs to experience disadvantages of the handicapped and a film presentation.

The Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants awarded certificates of merit and scholarship awards totalling \$1,000 to eight students in accounting.

Mary Anne Sulik, Lynn McNamara, Michael S. Gall and Joseph Procopio became the first students to graduate in three years through the CLEP program allowing academic acceleration for superior and exceptional students who pass nationally standardized examinations in their subjects.

Radio Station WSHU raised approximately \$2,000 through a membership week program.

Manuel Cardozo and Mary Sheehan, were elected president and vice president, respectively, of student government.

Among music department programs which took place in recent weeks were mixed chorus programs at St. Joseph's Manor, Trumbull and a program at St. John's R.C. Church, Stamford. An "Evening of Elizabethan Music" also took place at the University in May.

A total of 36 morning and evening courses were offered in SHU's three-week intensive summer session, which preceded two regular semesters of summer work. One unique offering in creative writing was conducted in the Green Mountains of Vermont by Dr. Ralph Corrigan, English department chairman and associate professor. A philosophy course in Spanish and new courses in psychological evaluation, the anthropology of the arts, and the production of Story Theatre programs for Children.

SUPERSTAR THRILLS 5,500

More than 5,500 persons viewed the spring performances of "Jesus Christ Superstar," directed by Claude McNeal, which played before standing room only crowds in the University gymnasium. More of the same is expected this summer, as noted in the page one article, and the drama department at the University may be contacted for reservation and ticket information.

To accommodate the show this spring, the gymnasium had been transformed into a gigantic Cabaret format for the performances, which ended with standing ovations for the cast involved.

The Cabaret players presented "Decades" at the Little Hippodrome in New York City for a three-week limited engagement May 29-June 12. The "Decades" performers have been invited to tour the Soviet Union and the European continent with final confirmation and arrangements pending.

The summer performances of "Jesus Christ Superstar" will again include the popular Cabaret type arrangements, tables and chairs or bleacher seats, and drama officials reported a brisk sale of tickets already taking place for summer performances announced.

Printmakers (continued from page 3)

Arts through the Connecticut Foundation for the Arts. Rev. William J. Fletcher coordinated the affair for the University and was project director for the grant.

Office of Public Information

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

Box 6460

Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606

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